

BIG BEND NATIONAL PARK

TEXAS

IN HIS LETTER TO CONGRESS OF NOVEMBER 28, 1973, THE PRESIDENT RECOMMENDED THAT WILDERNESS OF 533,900 ACRES AND 25,700 ACRES OF POTENTIAL WILDERNESS ADDITIONS BE DESIGNATED WITHIN BIG BEND NATIONAL PARK. IN VIEW OF TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES, LAND ACQUISITION, AND ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES WHICH HAVE TAKEN PLACE SINCE 1973, CAREFUL CONSIDERATION HAS BEEN GIVEN THE 1973 WILDERNESS RECOMMENDATION. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT MICROWAVE CONVERSION WILL PERMIT REMOVAL OF TELEPHONE LINES IN SOME OF THE POTENTIAL WILDERNESS AREAS MAKING THESE AREAS SUITABLE FOR INCLUSION AS WILDERNESS IN THE FUTURE. SOME NONFEDERAL PROPERTY HAS BEEN ACQUIRED AND SOME MANAGEMENT ROADS ARE NO LONGER NEEDED FOR MANAGEMENT PURPOSES. WE NOW RECOMMEND 538,250 ACRES AS WILDERNESS AND 44,750 ACRES AS POTENTIAL WILDERNESS ADDITIONS.

AVAILABILITY OF AN ADEQUATE WATER SUPPLY IS THE SINGLE MOST CRITICAL DETERMINER OF DEVELOPMENT AND USE OF THE PARK. EXCEPT AT RIO GRANDE AND COSTOLON, WATER IS NOT ABUNDANT THROUGHOUT THE PARK. PRUDENT USE OF SUPPLIES AND CONSERVATION MEASURES ARE NOW REQUIRED. THE NEED FOR POSSIBLE FUTURE HYDROLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT TO SUPPORT THE PANTHER JUNCTION DEVELOPMENT AREA IS NOW PLANNED FOR THE APPROXIMATELY 5,000 ACRE AREA SOUTH OF TORNILLO CREEK AND WEST OF THE PARK ROAD. IT IS NOT POSSIBLE AT THIS TIME TO ESTIMATE LOCATIONS OR NUMBER OF SUCH WATER DEVELOPMENTS. AS A RESULT WE ARE NOT RECOMMENDING THIS AREA FOR WILDERNESS DESIGNATION.





United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

MAY 11 1978

Honorable Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr.
Speaker of the
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Enclosed is a draft bill "To designate certain lands within units of the National Park System as wilderness."

We recommend that the draft bill be referred to the appropriate Committee for consideration, and that it be enacted.

The purpose of the bill is to designate, in accordance with section 3(c) of the Wilderness Act (78 Stat. 890; 16 U.S.C. 1132(c)), 25 areas as wilderness or potential wilderness. This proposed omnibus legislation represents completion of this Administration's review of wilderness proposals for areas within the National Park System made by previous Administrations, and consolidates into one legislative package many separate pieces of wilderness legislation currently pending before the Congress.

There are currently 30 National Park System wilderness proposals submitted by this Administration or previous Administrations which are not yet enacted. The bill proposes the following:

1. Four of the proposals should be enacted as previously submitted: Buffalo National River, Cedar Breaks, Everglades, and Glacier;
2. Action should be postponed on five of the proposals pending further study: Yosemite, Canyonlands, Capital Reef, Death Valley, and Assateague;
3. Action should be postponed on Great Smokies until the Park Service and the State of North Carolina resolve a dispute regarding the location of a road;

4. As the Katmai National Monument is being considered as part of the D-2 deliberations, we have not proposed designating it in this legislation;

5. The remainder of the previously submitted proposals should be revised in various ways which are described in the attached descriptions.

In addition, we have proposed wilderness and potential wilderness designation for portions of Gulf Islands National Seashore.

We have attached to this proposal a description of each area and other information, such as the facilities currently existing in those areas and management practices.

The Office of Management and Budget has advised that this legislative proposal is in accord with the program of the President.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Bob Herbst", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the left.

Bob Herbst

Assistant SECRETARY

A B I L L

To designate certain lands within units of the National Park System as wilderness.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, in accordance with section 3(c) of the Wilderness Act (78 Stat. 890; 16 U.S.C. 1132(c)), the following lands are hereby designated as wilderness.

(1) Arches National Park, Utah, wilderness comprising 61,547 acres, and potential wilderness additions comprising 8,461 acres; depicted on a map entitled "Wilderness Plan, Arches National Park, Utah", numbered 138-20,014-A and dated January 1978, to be known as the Arches Wilderness

• (2) Big Bend National Park, Texas, wilderness comprising 538,250 acres, and potential wilderness additions comprising 44,750 acres, depicted on a map entitled "Wilderness Plan, Big Bend National Park, Texas", numbered 155-20,004-D and dated January 1978, to be known as the Big Bend Wilderness.

(3) Bryce Canyon National Park, Utah, wilderness comprising 20,810 acres depicted on a map entitled "Wilderness Plan, Bryce Canyon National Park, Utah", numbered 129-20,004-C and dated January 1977, to be known as the Bryce Canyon Wilderness.

(4) Buffalo National River, Arkansas, wilderness comprising 10,529 acres, and potential wilderness additions comprising 25,471 acres, depicted on a map entitled "Wilderness Plan, Buffalo National River, Arkansas", numbered 173-20,036-B and dated March 1975, to be known as the Buffalo River Wilderness.

(5) Carlsbad Caverns National Park, New Mexico, wilderness comprising 33,125 acres, and potential wilderness additions comprising 320 acres, depicted on a map entitled "Wilderness Plan, Carlsbad Caverns National Park, New Mexico", numbered 130-20,003-B and dated January 1978, to be known as the Carlsbad Caverns Wilderness.

(6) Cedar Breaks National Monument, Utah, wilderness comprising 4,830 acres, depicted on a map entitled "Wilderness Plan, Cedar Breaks National Monument, Utah", numbered 154-20,000 and dated May 1973, to be known as the Cedar Breaks Wilderness.

(7) Colorado National Monument, Colorado, wilderness comprising 13,842 acres, and potential wilderness additions comprising 937 acres, depicted on a map entitled "Wilderness Plan, Colorado National Monument, Colorado", numbered 119-20,006-C and dated January 1978, to be known as the Colorado Wilderness.

(8) Crater Lake National Park, Oregon, wilderness comprising 127,058 acres, depicted on a map entitled "Wilderness Plan, Crater Lake National Park, Oregon", numbered 106-20,006-E and dated January 1978, to be known as the Crater Lake Wilderness.

(9) Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, wilderness comprising 12,191 acres, and potential wilderness additions comprising 1,900 acres, depicted on a map entitled "Wilderness Plan, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky", numbered 380-20,026-C and dated January 1978, to be known as the Cumberland Gap Wilderness.

(10) Dinosaur National Monument, Colorado and Utah, wilderness comprising 205,672 acres, and potential wilderness additions comprising 5,055 acres, depicted on a map entitled "Wilderness Plan, Dinosaur National Monument, Utah and Colorado", numbered 122-20,009-B and dated January 1978, to be known as the Dinosaur Wilderness.

(11) Everglades National Park, Florida, wilderness comprising 1,296,500 acres and potential wilderness additions comprising 81,900 acres, depicted on a map entitled "Wilderness Plan, Everglades National Park, Florida", numbered 160-20,011 and dated June 1974, to be known as the Everglades Wilderness.

(12) Glacier National Park, Montana, wilderness comprising 927,550 acres, and potential wilderness additions comprising 3,360 acres, depicted on a map entitled "Wilderness Plan, Glacier National Park, Montana", numbered 117-20,010-A and dated March 1974, to be known as the Glacier Wilderness.

(13) Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming, wilderness comprising 122,604 acres, and potential wilderness additions comprising 20,850 acres, depicted on a map entitled "Wilderness Plan, Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming", numbered 136-20,013-A and dated January 1978, to be known as the Grand Teton Wilderness.

(14) Guadalupe Mountains National Park, Texas, wilderness comprising 55,746 acres, and potential wilderness additions comprising 703 acres, depicted on a map entitled "Wilderness Plan, Guadalupe Mountains National Park, Texas", numbered 166-20,006-C and dated January 1978, to be known as the Guadalupe Mountains Wilderness.

(15) Gulf Islands National Seashore, Florida and Mississippi, wilderness comprising 1,792 acres, and potential wilderness additions comprising 2,800 acres, depicted on a map entitled "Wilderness Plan, Gulf Islands National Seashore, Mississippi, Florida", numbered 635-20,018-A and dated March 1977, to be known as the Gulf Islands Wilderness.

(16) Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, Hawaii, wilderness comprising 123,100 acres, and potential wilderness additions comprising 7,850 acres, depicted on a map entitled "Wilderness Plan, Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, Hawaii", numbered 124-20,020 and dated April 1974, to be known as the Hawaii Volcanoes Wilderness.

(17) Mount Rainier National Park, Washington, wilderness comprising 208,000 acres, and potential wilderness additions comprising 165 acres, depicted on a map entitled "Wilderness Plan, Mount Rainier National Park, Washington", numbered 105-20,007-A and dated August 1977, to be known as the Mount Rainier Wilderness.

(18) North Cascades Complex, Washington, wilderness comprising 537,120 acres, and potential wilderness additions comprising 1,508 acres, depicted on a map entitled "Wilderness Plan, North Cascades, Washington", numbered 168-20,009-B and dated January 1978, to be known as the North Cascades Wilderness.

(19) Olympic National Park, Washington, wilderness comprising 861,179 acres, and potential wilderness additions comprising 2,855 acres, depicted on a map entitled "Wilderness Plan, Olympic National Park, Washington", numbered 149-20,009-B and dated January 1978, to be known as the Olympic Wilderness.

(20) Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, Arizona, wilderness comprising 312,600 acres, and potential wilderness additions comprising 1,240 acres, depicted on a map entitled "Wilderness Plan, Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, Arizona", numbered 157-20,001-A and dated January 1978, to be known as the Organ Pipe Cactus Wilderness.

(21) Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado, wilderness comprising 240,030 acres, and potential wilderness additions comprising 284 acres, depicted on a map entitled "Wilderness Plan, Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado", numbered 121-20,015-A and dated January 1978, to be known as the Rocky Mountain Wilderness.

(22) Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, California, wilderness comprising 802,880 acres, and potential wilderness additions comprising 6,570 acres, depicted on a map entitled "Wilderness Plan, Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, California", numbered 102-20,003-C and dated January 1978, to be known as the Sequoia and Kings Canyon Wilderness.

(23) Theodore Roosevelt National Memorial Park, North Dakota, wilderness comprising 29,920 acres, depicted on a map entitled "Theodore Roosevelt National Memorial Park, North Dakota", numbered 387-20,007-E (sheets 1 and 2) and dated January 1978, to be known as the Theodore Roosevelt Wilderness.

(24) Yellowstone National Park, Idaho, Montana and Wyoming, wilderness comprising 2,032,721 acres, depicted on a map entitled "Wilderness Plan, Yellowstone National Park, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming", numbered 101-20,005-A and dated January 1978, to be known as the Yellowstone Wilderness.

(25) Zion National Park, Utah, wilderness comprising 120,620 acres, and potential wilderness additions comprising 10,364 acres, depicted on a map entitled "Wilderness Plan, Zion National Park, Utah", numbered 116-20,002-A and dated January 1978, to be known as the Zion Wilderness.

Sec. 2. A map and description of the boundaries of the areas designated in this Act shall be on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Director of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, and in the office of the Superintendent of each area designated in this Act. As soon as practicable after this Act takes

effect, maps of the wilderness areas and descriptions of their boundaries shall be filed with the Interior and Insular Affairs Committees of the United States Senate and House of Representatives, and such maps and descriptions shall have the same force and effect as if included in this Act: Provided, That correction of clerical and typographical errors in such maps and descriptions may be made.

Sec. 3. All Park Service lands which represent potential wilderness additions are designated wilderness subject only to the cessation of all uses thereon prohibited by the Wilderness Act except that the Secretary of the Interior may: extend grazing permits at Dinosaur National Monument, and Grand Teton National Park; extend a missile site permit at Everglades National Park; and he may permit a realignment of roads at Guadalupe Mountains National Park and Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. At such time as all uses thereon prohibited by the Wilderness Act have ceased, the Secretary of the Interior is directed to publish notice thereof in the Federal Register, and effective upon such publication the lands represented as potential wilderness additions shall be administered as wilderness.

Sec. 4. Nothing in this Act shall be construed to diminish the authority of the Coast Guard, pursuant to 14 U.S.C. 2 and 81 and title 1 of the Ports and Waterways Safety Act of 1972 (33 U.S.C. 1221), or the Federal Aviation Administration to use the areas designated wilderness by this Act within the Everglades National Park, Florida; Olympic National Park, Washington; and the Gulf Islands National Seashore, Florida and Mississippi, for navigational and maritime safety purposes.

Sec. 5. Nothing in this Act shall be construed as altering in any way any rights or claims which the Blackfeet Tribe of Indians may have within or in the vicinity of Glacier National Park; and the third sentence of Section 1 of the Act of May 11, 1910 (36 Stat. 354; 16 U.S.C. 161), as amended, is repealed.

Sec. 6. Nothing in this Act shall be construed as altering in any way the authority granted to the International Boundary Commission under the treaties between the United States and Great Britain of April 11, 1908 (35 Stat. 2003; 12 Bevans 297) and February 24, 1925 (44 Stat. 2102; 6 Bevans 7) as related to lands within the North Cascades Wilderness and the Glacier Wilderness as designated by section 1 of this Act.

Sec. 7. Section 1 of the Act of January 26, 1915 (38 Stat. 798, 800; 16 U.S.C. 191), pertaining to the use for reclamation purposes of lands within Rocky Mountain National Park, is amended by deleting therefrom the proviso.

Sec. 8. The areas designated by this Act as wilderness shall be administered by the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Wilderness Act governing areas designated by that Act as wilderness, except that any reference in such provisions to the effective date of the Wilderness Act shall be deemed to be a reference to the effective date of this Act, and, where appropriate, any reference to the Secretary of Agriculture shall be deemed to be a reference to the Secretary of the Interior.